



# ***The Resonator***

**Official Newsletter of The Fair Lawn (NJ) Amateur Radio Club**

**Volume 10, Number 3**

**[www.FairLawnARC.org](http://www.FairLawnARC.org)**

**March 2025**

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## **President's Message**

I would like to start this month's column out with a SUPER SPECIAL thank you to three great FLARC members. They are Ria Jairam N2RJ, Steve Holly WI2W and Noel Pagan W2MSA – for their outstanding work and devotion to make the February ARISS contact possible.

One of our other club activities was held at Ridgewood High School on March 1, 2025. This event, headed by Robert KD2SOG, was an OUTSTANDING great Success. I would like to thank him and all the other GREAT FLARC members that came out and helped make this an outstanding display of amateur radio.

At the April meeting, Gene K2KJI will be doing a live Kawfee Tawk™ at the Senior Center. His presentation will be on the work of HamSCI, for which our colleague Ed WX2R is the Public Information Officer. Gene will also talk about W3USR, the new amateur radio station at the University of Scranton. We are planning to put together a day trip to the University to see their superstation. The date to go there is Thursday April 24, 2025.. Mark your calendar. More details will follow as we get closer to the event.

Please do not forget May 29, 2025. That is Earth Day and again we have been invited to display Amateur Radio to about 200 Paterson School kids. It will be held at the Paterson Great Falls Park, starting at 8 am and it will be over around 1pm. More details and emails will follow.

At the May meeting Ria N2RJ will be doing a presentation about "Doing HF in an electric vehicle."

On May 4, 2025, we will have a Portable Day.

**Continued on next page.**

**Remember:  
Ham Radio Is a Contact Sport!**

## President's Message, continued

Again, it will be held in Memorial Park, but not in our usual area. It will be located behind the kiddie splash pool area.

Also, on May 26<sup>th</sup> we will again be providing communications for the Memorial Day parade.

As you know June will be a remarkably busy month with the Fair Lawn Street Fair (Still looking for someone to help organize it) on June 22<sup>nd</sup> and don't forget that June 14, 2025 is the date for our 5th annual Hamfest. This is one of the largest events that helps cover our expenses to run the club and to cover the cost of antenna and equipment repair. This is an ALL HANDS ON event for FLARC members.

I have tried to cover some of the items that the club will be doing. So please think about becoming a more active member and being part of a terrific club!

73,  
Gene  
WO2W



## SAVE THE DATE - APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup> for our visit to Nathaniel Frisell at Scranton University ARC

We'll be doing a "trip" to visit Dr. Nathaniel Frisell W2NAF at Scranton University, 800 Linden Street, Scranton. Parking garage is nearby or drive around to the back of the Loyola Science Center.

Their repeater is on 445.875 PL82.5 but we should use our W2NPT repeater on Echolink or cellphones to coordinate our meeting places and/or arrival times.

If you're coming up the fastest way, we can meet at the McDonalds just off Route 84 at Exit 34 Lords Valley for coffee and to reconiter. I'd suggest meeting there at 10AM. We will then proceed to Scranton, to arrive at around 11AM.

We'll meet with Nathaniel and his student/ham group to discuss plans to visit the station, the roof (antenna farm) and for their

## FLARC calendar of upcoming events

|                   |                                                               |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>April 4</b>    | K2KJI on HamSci                                               |
| <b>April 18</b>   | World Amateur Radio Day<br>1600 - 2100 EST                    |
| <b>April 24</b>   | Day trip to Scranton Univ<br>W3USR Club super-station         |
| <b>May 2</b>      | <b>N2RJ on "Operating Ham<br/>Radio in Electric Vehicles"</b> |
| <b>May 4</b>      | FLARC Portable Day                                            |
| <b>May 26</b>     | Memorial Day Parade                                           |
| <b>May 29</b>     | Great Falls Earth Day                                         |
| <b>June 14</b>    | FLARC Hamfest                                                 |
| <b>June 21</b>    | ARRL Kids Day                                                 |
| <b>June 22</b>    | FL Street Fair                                                |
| <b>June 28-29</b> | Summer Field Day                                              |
| <b>July 2</b>     | Fireworks Communications                                      |



informal presentation about HamSci and their future plans and activities.

Then we'll adjourn next to the Backyard Ale House right next door to the Loyola Science Center. Lunch will be on our own, from the menu.

Please! You must let me know via email or text that you're coming and who you are carpooling with. We must let Nathaniel have an accurate list of who will be attending.

It should be a fun/informative date of amateur radio and camaraderie with the HamSci folks.

Let's plan on making a nice showing to support Nathaniel and HamSci.

Van W2DLT Coordinator:

[vanw2dlt@yahoo.com](mailto:vanw2dlt@yahoo.com) - 201-207-3346

**Notable Hams**

by Jim Jalil W2KNG

This column features notable hams both past and present. This month we feature a musician who in his day was as famous as any rock star today. We refer to Gordon Lee "Tex" Beneke KØHWY.



**Tex Beneke KØHWY**

Tex Beneke was born in Fort Worth Texas in 1914. He began playing the saxophone at an early age and very soon it became clear to all that he had professional level musical talent. Beneke began his career 1935 when he was just 21 years old. He would remain a professional musician for the rest of his life except for his time in the Navy during World War II, although his wartime service was in the Navy Band.

The most popular music genre of the mid-20th century was the "Big Band" style of "swing" music. It was in this style that Beneke made his name both as a saxophonist and vocalist, although he is also known for his jazz and blues performances.

In 1938 Beneke joined the most popular Big Band of the era, the Glenn Miller band. In fact, it was Glenn Miller himself who gave Beneke his famous nickname "Tex" which stuck.

The Glenn Miller band, though enormously popular, only lasted a few years. It disbanded in 1942 when Glenn Miller, a pilot, joined the Army Air Corps (he went missing and presumed killed on a bombing mission over Germany in 1944).

However in 1939 the Glenn Miller band recorded one of the most famous orchestrations of the Big Band era, "In the Mood." The lead saxophone on that song, which is critical to the piece, was Tex Beneke.

Glenn Miller also scored big with the hit, [Chattanooga Choo Choo](#). There were several vocalists singing in harmony on that number. Beneke was one of them.

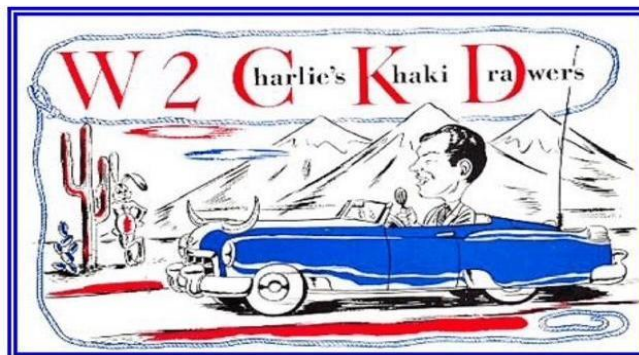
Yet another huge hit for the Glenn Miller band was (I've Got a Gal) In Kalamazoo. Again Beneke was one of the lead vocalists. One can not underestimate how huge these hits were at the time and how popular both Glenn Miller and Tex Beneke were.

After the war, musical tastes shifted away from Big Band "swing" music. However Beneke remained active both with his own bands and with a Glenn Miller tribute band operated by the Miller Estate. He later broke with the Miller Estate, which wanted the tribute band to play only Glenn Miller music.

He then formed his own band, this time incorporating more contemporary music along with traditional "swing" music. His band helped launch the careers of Eydie Gorme, Henry Mancini and Ronnie Deauville. Beneke and his band often played long engagements at Disneyland and he made several appearances on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson.

Beneke began to have health issues in the 1990s. He passed away in 2000 at the age of 86. In his day Beneke was as big a star as they come and to this day Tex Beneke is recognized by musicians as one of the greatest saxophone players of all time.

Tex Beneke was an active ham. He came to ham radio a little later in life, first licensed in 1949 as W2CKD. This was when he was living in New York.



**Tex Beneke's First QSL... Courtesy of Pete NL7XM**

Continued on page 8.



The Westchester Emergency Communications Assn.

Box 831 Sleepy Hollow, NY 10591

[www.weca.org](http://www.weca.org)

2025

## Amateur General Ham Radio Class!

WECA will be conducting its annual **free** preparatory class for the Amateur General FCC exam this spring **in-person** at the Valhalla Fire Training Center 4 Dana Road in Valhalla, NY 10595 **and via Zoom**. The class will run for nine weeks **starting Tuesday evening March 11<sup>th</sup> from 7-9:15 PM ET**. Subsequent classes will be on Tuesday evenings per the schedule below. Holders of the General license are permitted many additional frequency privileges including access to all HF bands, therefore,

### Capability to talk to the World!

Please join us for this free interactive course taught by a team of knowledgeable Extra and General Class Amateur Radio Operators from WECA. The class will review the test pool questions and answers and provide explanations of the accompanying concepts. All are welcome to attend who wish to gain additional knowledge of amateur radio even if you do not expect to take the test or have a license.

All classes are recorded and posted on [www.WECA.APP](http://www.WECA.APP) for review and self-study.

### Texts:

1. **The ARRL General Class License Manual 10<sup>th</sup> Edition** (includes access to on-line practice)
2. **The ARRL General Q&A Manual 7<sup>th</sup> Edition** (Includes explanations for all questions.)

Both are available from ARRL at:

<https://home.arrl.org/action/Store/ProductDetails/productId/2009476073> or from:

Gene W2KJI at KJI Electronics, Cedar Grove, NJ: 973-571-1930;

Gene is a reputable local ham radio dealer or from:

Amazon- Be very sure to order the correct editions.

1. **Please purchase the License Manual and begin reading as soon as possible.**
2. **The Q&A manual is also very helpful, but not required.**

### Syllabus & Schedule:

|      |          |                                                                    |                                       |
|------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 3/11 | Tuesday  | Ch 1                                                               | The General Class License & Ham Radio |
|      |          | Ch 2                                                               | Procedures and Practices              |
| 3/18 | Tuesday  | Ch 3                                                               | Rules and Regulations                 |
| 3/25 | Tuesday  | Ch 4                                                               | Components and Circuits               |
| 4/1  | Tuesday  | Ch 5                                                               | Radio Signals and Equipment           |
| 4/8  | Tuesday  | Practical Exercise: HF Station Equipment Display & Antenna Install |                                       |
| 4/15 | Tuesday  | Ch 6                                                               | Digital Modes                         |
| 4/22 | Tuesday  | Ch 7                                                               | Antennas                              |
| 4/29 | Tuesday  | Ch 8                                                               | Propagation                           |
| 5/6  | Tuesday  | Ch 9                                                               | Electrical and RF Safety, Review      |
| 5/8  | Thursday |                                                                    | VE Test Session in Valhalla, NY       |

If you would like to upgrade to Amateur General, please contact me at [Education@WECA.org](mailto:Education@WECA.org) so I can register you and provide additional information.

Larrie Sutliff / W2UL

WECA Education Director

FTC Closing Weather Number: 914-231-1615 (Zoom conducted even if FTC closes)

## Ham Radio Class Forming Now

The ARC<sup>2</sup> Radio club will be holding  
a 2-day in-person Technician Radio License class  
where you can learn everything you need to pass your  
35-question exam and earn your  
**Technician (entry level) FCC Amateur Radio License.**

*The Technician license is your gateway to the  
world-wide excitement of Amateur Radio and  
emergency communication ... and now  
you do NOT need to learn Morse code!*

**Class: 2 days (Saturday and Sunday) April 26-27**

**Time: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm**

**Location: Fairfield, NJ Red Cross office**

209 Fairfield Road, Fairfield, NJ 07004  
(Entrance from parking lot)

**Class Fee: \$20** (snacks & facility)

**Exam Fee: \$15** (payable at exam)

**FCC Fee: \$35** (payable to FCC within 10 days of the exam)

**Schedule:**

- Class: all day Saturday, 8 am to about 4:30 pm
- Review: Sunday, 8:30 am to about 1 pm
- Exam: Sunday, after review

**Registration required:** *(with full name, address, cell number)*

*Registration closes April. 10<sup>th</sup> or when class reaches full capacity of 20.  
You will need to get an FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN),  
instructions for getting FRN upon registration.*

To register: email the instructor: **NB1LL@ARRL.net**

**Instructor: Bill Kelly, NB1LL** (that is a #1 in NB1LL)

The instructor will send confirmation with instructions for getting FRN

**ARRL** The national association for  
AMATEUR RADIO®

# Ham Radio Class Forming Now

ARC Squared Radio club will be holding  
a 2-day in-person Amateur General Radio License class  
where you can learn what you need to pass your  
35-question exam and earn your upgrade to a  
**General FCC Amateur Radio License.**

*The General license is the second of three  
U.S. Amateur Radio licenses.*

*To upgrade to General, you must hold a Technician license.  
Upgrading to a General conveys extensive HF privileges.*

**Class: 2 days (Saturday and Sunday) June 21-22**

**Time: 8:00 am to about 4:30 pm**

**Location: Fairfield, NJ Red Cross office**

209 Fairfield Road, Fairfield, NJ 07004  
(Entrance from parking lot)

**Class Fee: \$20** (snacks & facility)

**Exam Fee: \$15** (payable at exam)

## **Schedule:**

- Pre-Studying is required
- Class: all day Saturday, 8 am to about 4:30 pm
- Review: Sunday, 8 am to about 1 pm
- Exam: Sunday, after review

**Registration required:** *(with full name, address, cell number, call sign)*  
*Registration closes June 10<sup>th</sup> or when class reaches full capacity of 20.*

To register or to ask questions, email: **NB1LL@ARRL.net**

**Instructor: Bill Kelly, NB1LL** (that is a #1 in NB1LL)

**ARRL** The national association for  
AMATEUR RADIO®

In 1957 Beneke moved to St Louis where he received his most famous call KØHWY. Beneke was such an enthusiastic ham that his wife, Maggie, soon took to ham radio herself becoming W2EHR.



Maggi Beneke W2EHR at the Beneke Station

Tex Beneke was a popular and famous musician in the mid-20th century. His saxophone play on "In The Mood" and his tenor voice on "Chattanooga Choo Choo" and "(I've Got a Gal) In Kalamazoo" remain as golden classics in the American Song Book.

Yet to us he was just Tex KØHWY, a fellow ham.

### Gordon Lee "Tex" Beneke KØHWY SK

#### 2025 Dues

New members: only \$20 for your first year !

There are no changes to dues for the upcoming year. Renew now, and let us know what activities or features would make you more active with the club.

Please make checks payable to:  
"Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club"  
and send them to:

Fair Lawn ARC  
– Attn: Treasurer  
10-10 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Please include a member application form with your \$25 check regardless of your member status. It can be found near the back of this newsletter.



### The Resonator Is Now Archived!

Ever wanted to search for something in *The Resonator*? Maybe a member profile. Perhaps a past Street Fair. Even who participated at Field Day in 2017.

Now you can. *The Resonator* has now been accepted as part of the Digital Library of Amateur Radio and Communications. DLARC is a project of the Internet Archive (the not-for-profit online library best known for *The Wayback Machine*.) DLARC is growing to be a massive online library of the past and present of ham radio and related communications. It is funded by a grant from Amateur Radio Digital Communications.

When you need to find something, go to:  
<https://archive.org/details/flarc-resonator>

You can use the search "text contents" field to do a full-text search on all issues or click "Date Published" to see them sorted by publication date.

### Get Direct With FLARC!

Here is a direct link to specific club info: just a click away!

<http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://auction.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://calendar.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://events.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://exams.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://news.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://swap.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://tech.FairLawnARC.org>  
<http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

<https://groups.io/g/FairLawnARC>



# The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio

Why is FLARC New Jersey's Most Exciting Radio Club?



## Annual and Special Events



- Field Day
- Winter Field Day
- World Amateur Radio Day
- Portable Day
- Earth and Environmental Days
- Field Trips
- Club Exchanges
- Special Even
- Public Service Activities
- Public Events
- Ham fests and Auctions
- Foxhunts
- Contests
- Youth Activities and more

## There Is Something Every Night At FLARC!

Monday: Near and Far Net

Tuesday: DMR Net and Open House at the clubhouse

Wednesday: ARES/RACES Net

Thursday: Tech Net

Friday: Open House at the clubhouse or *Kawfee Tawk* Speaker Series (Monthly via Zoom)

Weekends: Open House at the clubhouse, POTA and other station activations, Contests, Foxhunts



## Special Interest Groups

- Portable Ops (POTA, SOTA, etc.)
- DX: Chase the rare ones
- Digital Voice: DMR and other modes
- FT8: Plus, other WSJT modes
- Satellite: Also, for weather interests
- Monitoring: SWL and other listening
- Contesting
- EMCOMM
- Radio Direction Finding
- Raspberry pi, Arduino



## Plus:

- A five-position operating station clubhouse
- An active repeater—W2NPT linked with NJ2BS.
- New antennas on the roof
- Monthly VE testing
- An award-winning newsletter
- Monthly speaker programs
- Educational programs and activities
- Active in-person and social networking
- An extensive video education archive

## That is Why FLARC Is the Most Exciting Club Around!

Come join us in-person or via Zoom for more activities, speakers, and projects!

[www.fairlawnarc.org](http://www.fairlawnarc.org)



**The Club** Fair Lawn ARC is the fastest growing ham club around, with five operating positions in a permanent clubhouse. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The club is open every Friday night, except when there is a Business Meeting scheduled, from NLT 6:30 PM. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30PM.

#### 2025 Officers, Committees and Assignments

|                        |                       |              |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| President              | Gene Ottenheimer      | WO2W         |
| Vice President         | Nomar Vizcarrondo     | NP4H         |
| Treasurer              | Robert Marchini       | KD2SOG       |
| Secretary              | Jim Cooper            | W2JC         |
| Trustee                | Judith Shaw           | KC2LTM       |
| Trustee                | Lowell "Van" VantSlot | W2DLT        |
| Trustee                | Noel Pagan            | W2MSA        |
| Member Services        | Judith Shaw           | KC2LTM       |
| Health & Welfare       | Nomar Vizcarrondo     | NP4H         |
| Marketing              | Jim Cooper            | W2JC         |
| Program                | [open]                |              |
| Video/YouTube          | Thom Guida            | W2NZ         |
| Social Media           | Brian Duddy           | N2BTD        |
|                        | Thom Guida            | W2NZ         |
|                        | Dave Marotti          | NK2Q         |
| Photographer           | Robert Marchini       | KD2SOG       |
| Community Relations    | Gene Ottenheimer      | WO2W         |
|                        | Dave Gotlib           | KD2MOB       |
| Field Day2025          | [open]                |              |
| Winter Field Day 2025  | Noel Pagan            | W2MSA        |
| Hamfest                | Gene Ottenheimer      | WO2W         |
| Auction                | Brian Cirulnick       | KD2KLN       |
| Education              | [open]                |              |
| Youth Outreach         | Robert Marchini       | KD2SOG       |
| Adult Outreach         | Lowell "Van" VantSlot | W2DLT        |
|                        | Jim Cooper            | W2JC         |
| VE Testing Coordinator | Gene Ottenheimer      | WO2W         |
| Special Events         | James Gallo           | KB2FMH       |
| Contests               | Lowell Vant Slot      | W2DLT        |
| FLARC Historian        | Fred Belghaus         | KR2H [W2AAB] |
| Webmaster              | Jim Cooper            | W2JC         |
| Technical Chair        | Dave deCoons          | WO2X         |
| EmComm                 | Jim Breheny           | N2JLF        |
| RACES/ARES Director    | Dave Gotlib           | KD2MOB       |
| RACES/ARES Liaison     | Steve Wraga           | WA2BYX       |
| Newsletter Editor      | Jim Jalil             | W2KNG        |
| Newsletter Publisher   | Jim Cooper            | W2JC         |
| Club Station Manager   | Noel Pagan            | W2MSA        |
| Quartermaster          | Fred Wawra            | W2ABE        |
| W2NPT Trustee          | Jim Cooper            | W2JC         |
| NK2H Trustee           | Ed Efchak             | WX2R         |

President serves as ex officio to all committees

## Want a Call Sign License Plate?

Amateur Radio (Ham operators) license plates may be purchased for a \$15 fee, for passenger vehicles, but not for commercial vehicles or motorcycles. (Applicants must be licensed by the Federal Communications Commission.)

Call MVC at 609.292.6500 or (toll free in NJ) 888.486.3339 to request an application.

The club has applications from time to time. If you would like an application, visit the "contact us" page, and we'll get one out to you. Or find the form and detailed instructions at:

<https://www.state.nj.us/mvc/pdf/vehicles/SP-23.pdf>



## Letters:

### A feature of *The Resonator*

The editor has received a lot of nice notes, letters and comments about this newsletter and the club in general. We have not published them in the past but going forward we will at least try.

Here are the grounds rules:

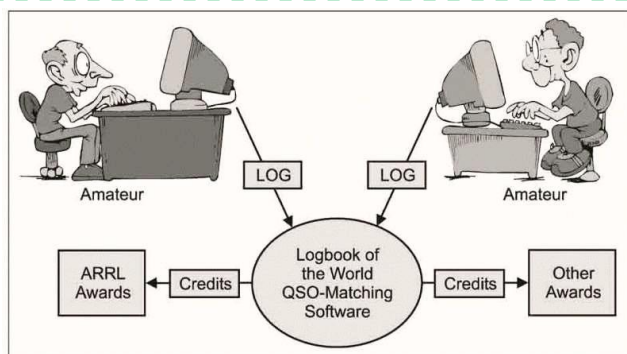
- Please keep all comments as brief and succinct as possible.
- No personal attacks.
- No political rants.
- No comments promoting violence, racism, religious intolerance, vulgarity, obscenity, or other such discourteous behavior.
- The Editor reserves the right to exclude any comments that violate our guidelines and may subject the writer to further disciplinary action by the club.

# A QSL card is the final courtesy of an amateur radio contact.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QSL\\_card](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QSL_card)

**INCOMING QSL Bureau** -- if you have been making on-the-air contacts, you might very well have a package of exciting QSL cards from around the world waiting for you at the incoming QSL Bureau. If you previously received cards from them, check to see if you have any “credits” left by going to [https://www.njdxa.org/?page\\_id=869](https://www.njdxa.org/?page_id=869). If you never contacted them, they probably have cards for you! Go to this page -- [https://www.njdxa.org/?page\\_id=25](https://www.njdxa.org/?page_id=25) and get some ‘credits’ to cover the postage for mailing your cards to you.

To learn about the W2 Bureau, [https://www.njdxa.org/?page\\_id=30](https://www.njdxa.org/?page_id=30)



Those who upload logs to Logbook of the World become eligible to redeem confirmation credits for awards. LoTW wants and needs *all* logs. Uploading is free, so send your logs today!

## NOTE:

While LoTW is back on line and seems to be perking along just fine, we're advised that the DXCC part and application process is not yet restored. If you have plans to apply for DXCC, or endorsements, be patient and expect a few months delay.

## Follow FLARC ON THE WEB

**Facebook:** <http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>

**Twitter:** @FairLawnARC

**Youtube:** <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

**Website:** <http://FairLawnARC.org>

## SIG Group Membership

Here is an update on the roster of Special Interest Groups... many groups have increased in size during the last month. About 45% of all members have joined at least one group.

| <u>SIG Name</u>   | <u>Leader</u> | <u>#</u> |
|-------------------|---------------|----------|
| Contesting        | W2DLT         | 14       |
| Digital Voice     |               | 30       |
| EmComm            | N2JLF         | 13       |
| Monitoring        | WX2R          | 25       |
| DX                | W2JC          | 18       |
| FT8               | W2JC          | 22       |
| Satellites        | N2AAM         | 20       |
| Portable Ops      | W2MSA         | 48       |
| Radio Astronomy   | WX2R          | 4        |
| Raspberry pi      |               | 7        |
| Direction Finding |               | 6        |
| FLARC General     |               | 174      |

Sign up for a group... or ...  
why not start one?

Contact [webmaster@FairLawnARC.org](mailto:webmaster@FairLawnARC.org)  
if you would like to start a new  
Special Interest Group.

# The Clubhouse Is Open Three Fridays In March!!

| Date     | Clubhouse Status                                                      |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 7  | <b>CLOSED</b> – Business Meeting<br>at Fair Lawn <b>Senior</b> Center |
| March 14 | <b>OPEN</b>                                                           |
| March 21 | <b>OPEN</b>                                                           |
| March 28 | <b>OPEN</b>                                                           |
|          |                                                                       |



## Pop-Up Tuesdays are now in-person at the club.

The club will follow all borough COVID-19 requirements for these events.



**Editor's Corner — by Jim Jalil W2KNG**

In tuning the band the other day a ham was overheard to say: "I don't QSL, I'd rather spend my time making contacts than filling out cards." There was not only a touch of arrogance in the tone, but disrespect as well.

A QSL card or electronic acknowledgement, as for example on LOTW, is the final courtesy of a QSO. Failing to QSL is, to some, like failing to shake one's hand when it is held out (other than for religious, sanitary or other understandable reasons). There is the slight element of insult associated with the action. So too, intentionally refusing to QSL has a slight insult embedded in the intention. It is saying in effect, you do not merit my time or attention.

Clearly every QSO does not require a QSL card or electronic acknowledgement – just as every time good friends meet, as for example at a FLARC meeting or Sunday breakfast club gathering, a handshake is not expected. In such situations there is a level of familiarity and informality such that a handshake is not appropriate. So too when friends gather on a net or chat on a local repeater a QSL is not appropriate. QSLing requires a bit of common sense.

Generally however, a QSL is a sign of respect to one's fellow ham. It signifies that the QSO is valued and provides a tangible reminder that we should value, perhaps even cherish, every QSO. The ham on the other side of the QSO worked just as hard as you to study and obtain a license, worked just as hard as you to assemble his or her station, struggled to put up an antenna and get the SWR down, labored to get all the inevitable bugs out of the system before getting on the air. That should be respected and acknowledged. A QSL does that.

To make a sports analogy... once a high school basketball team was winning a game by a healthy margin and the players began to take the game lightly and act in a jovial manner in a slight show of disrespect to clearly an inferior opponent. The coach noticed this and immediately called time out to chastise his players. He told his team that

those players on the other side came out for their team, just as they did, gave up their time to practice and practiced just as hard they did, and in the end were fellow athletes. That common athletic bond, commitment to the game and effort demanded respect.

So too with a QSL. It is a sign of respect to a fellow ham. One never knows that perhaps the ham on the other side of the QSO is making one of his or her first contacts, is experimenting with a new rig, maybe even a homebrew rig, or maybe has just finished arduously putting up an antenna and is thrilled beyond measure to have made a contact hundreds or thousands miles away. A QSL would confirm and validate all that effort.

Not every ham chases awards. Many hams do not care about awards and that's fine. But many of our fellow hams do. That also demands respect, even if awards are not important to you. Even if you are not a rare country, or even a less populated State, you never know if the ham on the other side of the QSO is working hard on an award, as perhaps as a county hunter, grid hunter, or just needs your State on that band, even if it a common one. To acknowledge the QSO with a QSL is more than a courtesy to that fellow ham, it might be very important to him or her.

In these days of electronic QSLs there is no excuse for not doing even that. Clearly for some the traditional card is the preferred manner of doing a QSL, and that's fine. But to others who may not want to take the time, and to be fair the expense, of a QSL card, jeepers, at least you can join LOTW and QSL like that. Today it is easier than ever to acknowledge a QSO with an electronic QSL on LOTW. Many logging programs do that automatically. To not make even that effort is truly a sign of disrespect.

**A QSL card is the final courtesy of an amateur radio contact.**

## Vast Archive of FLARC Activities and Info

Members are reminded that we have a large archive of YouTube videos of our previous many years of Kawfee Tawk™ presentations, which cover many aspects of ham radio. Our mostly unsung hero club videographer, Thom W2NZ, has spent thousands of hours of his own time creating really professional quality videos of these 167 presentations. Visit our club YouTube page and you will see all of them listed on the main page, at

<http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

Another large and rather unused archive is that of our nine years of the club newsletter, The Resonator. They provide a nice historical record of the many activities of FLARC over the years, as well as lots of useful info about ham radio and electronics. The entire archive is at

<http://newsletters.FairLawnARC.org>

And don't forget the FILES area of our groups.io website, where useful and important info is saved:

<https://fairlawnarc.groups.io/g/main/files>

## Renew Your ARRL Dues... Send Free Money to FLARC!

The ARRL has a great program to support affiliated clubs in that it sends part of your dues back to the club if you renew through the club.

So... when you get your ARRL renewal, send both your check and your renewal application to our trusty Treasurer, who will take care of getting your renewal to Newington and a fat check for \$5.00 back to FLARC.

Nothing can be simpler...  
you just have to remember!!

Print and use the  
form on page 28  
of this issue of  
The Resonator



## Club Apparel — Get Them While They're **RED**!

Club apparel is always in vogue. Red is always "in" and your club friends all have them... you *want* a shirt or jacket for the next FLARC event! Great for Field Day!

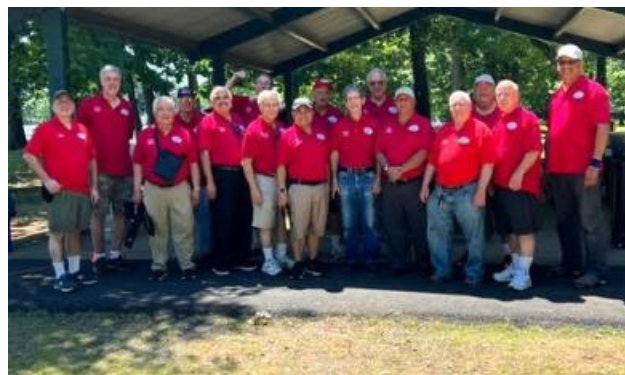
Don't forget.... they're easy to order.

Go to [www.hamthreads.com](http://www.hamthreads.com)

or visit <http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>

**Check out the item selection that is posted on the FLARC website (with pictures and prices).** Order the shirts or other items you want with either the regular FLARC logo or the still-cool 60th anniversary logo. Note: **RED** is the primary and preferred club standard shirt color.

And why not WEAR your nice red shirt when you come to the club, especially for meetings and events.



It's easy to spot FLARC members  
wearing their red club shirts !

## Ham Radio Is Contagious And It Won't Make You Sick!!

### 2024 FLARC Net On The W2NPT Repeater:

*Near and Far Net • Mondays at 8PM*

*W2NPT Repeater and EchoLink*

**Special Note:** As non-profit, the IRS now requires that we disclose annually the use of paid lobbyists to our members and indicate approximately what percentage of their dues goes toward that. 0% of your dues payment will be used by the club to directly pay a lobbyist firm to lobby on behalf of all our members regarding pending legislation that impacts our hobby.



**NEWHAMS.INFO**

Training, information, and encouragement for new amateur radio operators.

<https://newhams.info/>

#### BEQUEATHS AND DONATIONS

Planned gifts usually imply the family donation of amateur equipment to the club when someone has become a Silent Key. But it can be more. Club members might consider making a gift through a will or trust; gifts that help provide lifetime income to the club. Consult with your lawyer, estate planner or tax advisor if you feel such a gift is worthy.

## About The Club

*The Resonator* is published monthly and is the official (and only) newsletter of The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club. FLARC was established in 1956 and has met continuously since inception. **The club is sponsored by the Borough of Fair Lawn.** The club meets every Friday, except when a Business Meeting is scheduled, at 6PM at the club station in The Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Fair Lawn Senior Center, and on Zoom.

Visitors **ARE ALWAYS** welcome at our meetings.

FLARC operates the W2NPT repeater (145.470- PL 167.9) located high atop the Community Center. The analog repeater is open to all amateurs for use without restrictions.

The club has nearly two hundred paid members.

Dues are currently \$25 per year;  
\$20 for new members.

For more information, please see our website, at

<http://membership.FairLawnARC.org>

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Thanks!  
for your  
Support!!

**This is YOUR club.... Be a part of it !!**



**FAIR LAWN'S  
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER!**

***With Our Antennas On The Roof!***



## Around the Shack

— by Hal Kennedy N4GG

### Enclosure Vents

I purchased an end-fed-half-wave (EFHW) antenna recently. Per the manufacturer, the antenna provides all-band HF coverage (80 through 10 meters) and can handle 1 KW ICAS of power.

The antenna consists of 134 feet of wire, a loading coil and a matching box. The matching box contains a 49:1 ferrite matching transformer and a small trimmer capacitor. The capacitor is there to keep the SWR low above 14 MHz. The matching box also has a light gray knob-like appendage I did not immediately recognize (Figure 1).



Figure 1. The EFHW matching box with mysterious appendage.

I have no complaints about the product.

"Magic smoke" did come out of the matching box not long after I put it on the air, but depending on one's viewpoint I'm responsible for that.

In true ham spirit, I saw the smoke-generating failure as an opportunity to look inside.

Figures 1 and 2 show the outside and inside of the 49:1 transformer box. Not shown is what was left of the trim capacitor.

I fried the trim capacitor (150 pF, 3 KV) while running

FT8 on 10 meters with 100 watts and a 4:1 SWR. Also not shown are the two 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch drain holes I was glad to discover in the bottom of the box.

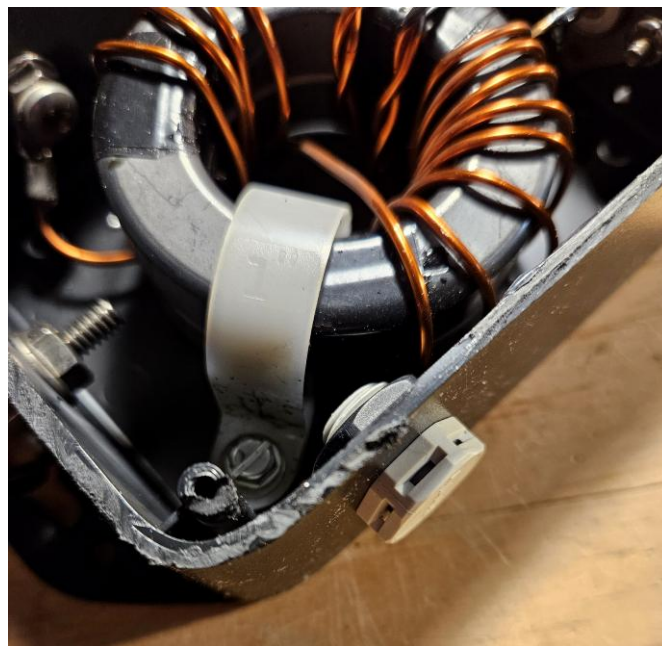


Figure 2. Inside view of the "1 KW ICAS" rated EFHW matching box.

In my *Around the Shack* column of March 2019, I offered a suggestion regarding sealing outdoor enclosures. My advice then was as it is now – don't try to seal them. The humidity trapped inside sealed boxes eventually condenses into liquid water. Corrosion follows. Do what the power, telephone and CATV companies do – leave the bottom of enclosures open. If you can't or won't leave the bottom open, then provide drain holes. Figure 3 shows the bottom of a 4 X 4 inch NEMA box in use at N4GG to house a coax splice. Note the holes at the bottom are large enough for a PL-259 to easily pass through.



Figure 3. The bottom of a NEMA box in use outdoors at N4GG. The bottom of the box is wide open.

Continued on next page.

## Around the Shack, Continued

The source of water condensate in sealed boxes is humidity; but it's temperature and pressure fluctuations that cause the condensation. A drop in pressure lowers the dew point, which promotes condensation on cooler components and surfaces inside the box.

The diurnal cycle and heat from internal electronics change the temperature *and* the pressure inside a sealed box. Cold rain from a summer thunderstorm will cause a sudden pressure drop inside a sealed box – a recipe for condensation, as the lower pressure inside (a weak vacuum) will draw in damp outside air.

Something I failed to consider when writing in 2019 was the potential need for, and/or value from, “venting” in addition to “draining.”

Vents can serve two purposes – equalizing pressure and providing a path for convective cooling. An open bottom or drain holes will keep the pressure inside a box equal to the pressure outside the box, but depending on the size of the opening or holes, it may not provide much opportunity for air circulation. The two small holes at the bottom of my EFHW matching box provide an exit path for condensate and they will prevent a pressure differential, but they provide no opportunity for air circulation.

So, what is that thing shown in Figure 1? It's a “Pressure Relief Vent” made by Amphenol. Amphenol has an extensive product line of these things. Some are plastic, some are made from stainless steel. There are large ones and small ones, cheap ones and expensive ones. Consistent with Amphenol's heritage of high-quality products, their pressure relief vents are fully specified. The key specification is the air volume that will move through the device as a function of differential pressure.

Prior to my EFHW antenna acquisition, I'd not seen a small pressure relief vent – they seldom appear in ham radio. Despite that, it turns out the market for pressure relief vents is booming. Much of the demand is coming from the EV car industry.

Li-ion battery packs have to “breathe” while remaining “sealed” against water and contaminant ingress. If you are driving an EV, one or more pressure relief vents is with you in your vehicle. Another place these devices are in widespread use is in landscape-lighting boxes.

Small pressure relief vents such as the one on my EFHW

box are surprisingly high-tech and surprisingly low cost. The “secret sauce” in the device is a membrane that is both hydrophobic (water resistant) and oleophobic (oil resistant).

The devices “breathe” in both directions while preventing ingress of water, oil, or contaminants. The Amphenol part on my EFHW box (Figure 4) is available from DigiKey for \$2.30 in quantities of one.



Figure 4. The \$2.30 Amphenol pressure relief vent from my EFHW matching box.

An equivalent to the Amphenol part (Figure 5) is available from a no-name company on Amazon - search for “4 Pcs Blue Breather Plug.”



Figure 5. A no-name pressure relief vent available from Amazon.

They cost \$8.99 for four. Amazon Prime will deliver them in two days. The advertising copy says: “...keep product enclosures pressure balanced and avoid condensation.”

Bud Industries – the makers of the “Bud boxes” hams have used for decades also make a line of these devices.

Continued on next page.

**Around the Shack, Continued**

**Figure 6. A Bud Industries pass-through enclosure vent. \$10.99 from Amazon.**

Okay, now back to my EFHW matching box. The one with smoke coming out of the drain holes at the bottom. The drain holes are fine. They keep the pressure inside the box equal to the pressure outside, and they will drain any condensate that might occur. The Amphenol pressure relief vent near the top of the box adds nothing other than a small cost. Pressure relief vents don't "breathe" without significant pressure differential and there is none in a box with holes at the bottom.

The box itself is made of polycarbonate. Polycarbonate has low thermal conductivity – not much heat will move through the walls of the box to the outside. Let's be clear – my EFHW matching box is an oven. What it needs is internal convective cooling and it doesn't have any.

The 49:1 matching transformers used in EFHW antennas dissipate a lot of power. **They get hot!** That's lost power – power we wish was moving through the ferrite core and out to the antenna. Typically, temperature rise is the limiting factor in EFHW matching transformers – not flux density in the core(s) used.

Stacking two or more cores is a common approach to building higher power transformers, but that's being done to spread the heat, not to reduce flux density or improve the transformer's thermal efficiency. What EFHW matching transformers and their enclosures need is thermal management – a subject I haven't seen discussed nor addressed in a practical way.

The design and construction of thermally efficient transformers and enclosures deserves its own column. Suffice it to say there is room for improvement in the current state-of-the-art. One valuable step in the right direction is to incorporate convective cooling, and that's easy to achieve. With holes at the bottom, what's needed is one or more holes at the top. Just as there are a variety of pressure relief vents for sale, there are a variety of vents that pass air straight through to choose from. Bud makes a series of these (Figure 6). My plan at N4GG is to replace the Amphenol pressure relief vent with a Bud pass-through vent and then run some tests.

Like most things these days, the Bud vents are available from Amazon. An alternative would be to simply drill holes in the top of the box and fashion a rain hat. How to build, enclose and heat-sink a better transformer may be the subject of a future column.

73, Hal N4GG

**Post-Script**

I didn't think it appropriate to identify the manufacturer of my EFHW antenna since despite my discouragement at the lack of robustness of the product, the design and build-quality are fully consistent with current best-practice.

The manufacturer used quality materials. Even the pressure relief vent is an Amphenol rather than a Chinese knock-off. The build-quality is first-class. I don't think you can buy a better one. It would be wrong to avoid buying the one I bought given that every EFHW currently for sale with a "1 KW ICAS" rating (or something similar) will fail at 100 watts on 28 MHz into a 4:1 SWR running FT8.

I had difficulty keeping this month's column to a single subject, which turned out to be enclosure venting. There is so much more to say. The power handling ability of EFHW matching transformers is a complex subject. The capability is directly dependent on SWR yet manufacturers and technical articles rarely mention this. The "I" in ICAS stands for intermittent, but, as I've written before, what does intermittent mean?

The FT8 transmit duty cycle is 42.1%, yet the EFHW community usually defines it as 100% given the transmitter is key-down for 12.64 seconds at a time. This underscores the inability of current designs to remove heat fast enough.

Continued on next page.

## Around the Shack, Continued

If you would like to get a fuller appreciation of EFHW power capabilities, I'd like to suggest reading some prior *Around the Shack* (ATS) columns and *Ham Radio Tips and Tales* (HRT&T) book chapters:

### End-Fed Half-Wavelength Antennas

ATS March, 2018

HRT&T Chapter 3

### Watertight Enclosures

ATS March, 2019

HRT&T Chapter 14

### QRO Considerations

ATS April, 2019

HRT&T Chapter 15

### CCS, ICAS and Coaxial Cable Ratings

ATS July, 2020

HRT&T Chapter 31

### High power antenna tuners

ATS Nov, 2023



### FLARC PortableOps SIG

[PortableOps@FairLawnARC.groups.io](mailto:PortableOps@FairLawnARC.groups.io)

This is a Special Interest Group (SIG) for members interested in portable ham radio operation such as POTA, SOTA, IOTA, LOTA, etc. The purpose of this SIG is to get outdoors and practice our operating skills from different places. We can share outing experiences, tips and work on our operating skills.

The pictures below are of Bill WA2WL on a recent Monday morning at Garrett Mtn. 27 degrees and 20 miles an hour wind. Good thing that he has a heavy duty spring on his antenna. -- WO2W



"Snowbird" Van W2DLT caught the POTA-bug while visiting in Florida and hooked-up at this Meet-Up to learn more about it.



And here is one of the portable setups he found at the Meet-Up



The cold, cold wind is holding Bill's vertical at 45 degrees.



Van W2DLT found this compact power box at a POTA get-together in Florida

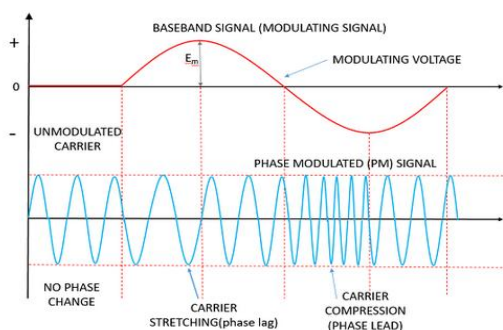
## Theoretics Demystified

This time we are going to recap the methods of modulation and demodulation we looked at. First there was SPARK which is a crude type of Amplitude Modulation and was eagerly used by very early hams. Then came RF alternators, still AM, and then the era of vacuum tubes began – first with AM then with Frequency Modulation. There are several other types of modulation which is again a way of including message information in with the baseband/carrier RF signal.

Another type of modulation is PHASE modulation where the information being transmitted causes a change in phase of the carrier. This happens within one cycle of the modulation input signal. The amount of phase change is determined by the amplitude of information's signal.

Increase of the modulating signal on the plus side leads to phase lag which causes carrier stretching and decreasing the modulation signal below the zero value leads to carrier compression. This all happens within the cycle of the modulating signals input. It is like frequency modulation but is a very small shift compared to FM.

Below is an illustration of Phase Modulation and the effects of input modulation signals and how they cause a change in how the carrier acts by carrier stretching during the plus side of the signal and carrier compression during the minus input of the modulation signal.



There are other forms of modulation of a carrier wave. To name a few there are Pulse Amplitude which is like AM but instead of voice pulses are transmitted, Pulse Width where the pulse duration is varied and Pulse Position Modulation where the location, time wise, of the pulses convey information.

Lastly there are several forms of Digital Modulation which will be discussed next month.

## HAMSPEAK

### BEVERAGE ANTENNA

is a long wire receiving antenna used for low and medium frequency bands and was invented by Harold H. Beverage in 1921.

### DIPOLE ANTENNA

is an antenna where there are two sections of wire that are connected in the middle to a feed wire using either an open line wire or coax cable which goes to the receiver/transmitter.

### FEEDLINE

The term used to describe the wire that goes from an antenna to a receiver or transmitter.

### LADDER LINE

consists of two wires spaced in a parallel fashion using a type of flexible plastic such as polyethylene and has open spaces to make the line more flexible. With the open spaces it looks like a ladder, hence the term ladder line!

### OPEN FEED LINES

Sometimes depending upon the frequency and impedance, the open feed line is spaced with ceramic spacers where the feed wire runs through holes in the spacers. Spacers are about 4 inches in length.

Fred Wawra, W2ABE, 73.

## FLARC February 18, 2025 VE Testing Results

With VE testing back on schedule,  
Gene **W02W** reports the following results:

| Name             | Call   | License Earned |
|------------------|--------|----------------|
| Andrew Farinella | KE2FEK | Technician     |
|                  |        |                |
|                  |        |                |
|                  |        |                |
|                  |        |                |
|                  |        |                |
|                  |        |                |
|                  |        |                |

Testing for next month will be at the  
Fair Lawn Recreation Center.

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**NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR • K2US**

— Jim Jalil W2KNG

Older FLARC members may remember the 1964-65 New York World's Fair. To say it was a big deal is to vastly underestimate the hoopla, the anticipation and the thrill of the World's Fair. It was a very big deal.



**Main Avenue 1964-65 World's Fair**

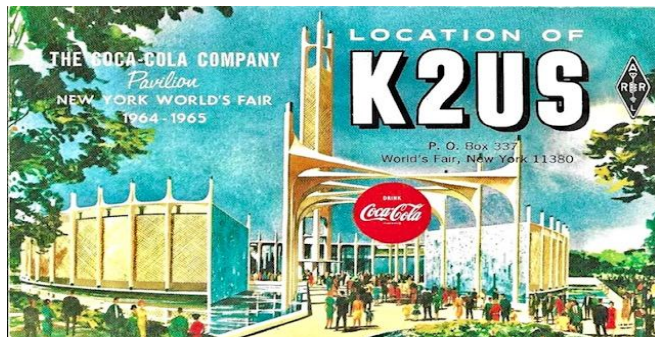
Many countries contributed exhibits or “pavilions as they were called, to the World's Fair. Country after country set up pavilions to highlight their culture, cuisine, art, etc. Even the Vatican sent Michelangelo's priceless Pieta statue. It might be urban legend, but many believe sushi was first introduced to America, or at least to New York, at the Japanese Pavilion. Well known corporations likewise set up pavilions showcasing products and concepts, along with rides and entertainment.

The theme of the World's Fair, however, seems to have been “the world of tomorrow.” The future looked bright in 1964 and possibilities endless. The spotlight was on predicting how science and technology would revolutionize the world and the way we live. Looking back they got many things right and some things wrong (I have yet to see a flying car). Perhaps the biggest miss, at least to my recollection, was the failure to predict the personal computer and smart phone.

For ham radio operators there was special treat. Housed in the Coca Cola Pavilion was an ARRL sponsored ham radio station with the Special Event call sign of K2US. During the entire two years the World's Fair was open this station was available for any American Amateur Radio Operator to come, take a seat and operate within his or her license privileges.

I was privileged to have operated K2US, in the summer of 1964. At the age of 16 my childhood friend (and fellow ham) Dave and I traveled to the Coca Cola Pavilion intent on operating K2US.

After 61 years my memory may have faded a bit, but some images are vivid.



**QSL Card Courtesy of Pete NL7XM**

As we two scruffy teenagers from New Jersey walked in we were greeted by those in charge. Once we showed our licenses and were confirmed as legitimate, licensed ham radio operators we were warmly welcomed. We both held General licenses at the time (I was WB2KNG in those days). Generals had full operating privileges in 1964 so there was no need to monitor our operating. We were shown the operating stations and left on our own.

Here is where my memory becomes hazy. If anyone has a better recollection, I stand corrected. In my memory there were two operating positions because I recall my friend sitting next to me. I believe I operated a full Collins S Line, but with no amplifier. Whatever I was operating though I recall being in ham heaven as this was far above my home station of a DX-40 and Lafayette HE-30 receiver.

K2US was a very popular QSO during the run of the World's Fair. I operated CW on 20 meters and as soon as I sent CQ de K2US the band became abuzz and alive. I plowed through the pileup as best I could. I like to believe I did OK, at least I thought I did at the time. One thing I do recall is I had to maintain a paper log. Unlike today when a computer does the logging simply, efficiently and quickly, I had to make sure that after each QSO I wrote down the time and call sign legibly then quickly get back to the key and the pileup.

Looking back all these years later operating K2US at the New York World's Fair remains a memorable experience. I would love to know if any other FLARC members operated K2US in 1964 or 1965 and perhaps share that memory through a brief recollection in The Resonator. If anyone has pictures of the station set up, or a better memory of the equipment, that would be warmly welcomed.

## EARTH TO SPACE

– by Jim W2KNG

On February 12<sup>th</sup> the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club demonstrated the power of amateur radio to a large assembly of young students in Clifton, New Jersey. After months of planning and preparation, students were able to use ham radio to speak with Astronaut Donald Pettit **KD5MDT** on board the International Space Station.



Overview of the FLARC-ISS Communication Center

As the International Space Station orbited the earth 250 miles up and traveling at 17,100 miles per hour, students up-linked to the space station via ham radio to ask questions and chat with Astronaut Pettit. The students asked many varied questions, such as how he sleeps, what life is like aboard a space station and how astronauts keep track of time. One student even asked Astronaut Pettit how he celebrated his birthday.

All of this was possible through the tireless efforts of Ria N2RJ, Steve W12W and Noel W2MSA. To be scheduled to contact the International Station and speak with an astronaut a school group must make application to the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) months in advance. It is not easy to get on the schedule and not only must a detailed application be made but the supporting organization must demonstrate certain curriculum and other requirements.

In addition ARISS requires evidence that a competent group of licensed amateur radio operators would be available to handle the contact. When asked by the group sponsoring the event if the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club would

be interested the Club, in its finest tradition of community service, responded enthusiastically yes. Once FLARC was involved there was no question on the part of ARISS that the ham radio aspect of the contact was clearly and competently under control.

As all ham radio operators know, at the VHF frequencies used by the amateur radio equipment on board the International Space Station communication is by line of sight. So as the orbiting International Space Station came over the horizon contact between the Clifton group and the ISS was quickly established. Contact would be maintained for the 10 to 15 minutes the space station was between horizons and before the curvature of the earth rendered line-of-sight communication no longer possible. But in that time period students fired questions up to Astronaut Pettit — who was gracious, patient and interesting.

All of this would not have been possible without Ria N2RJ's tireless efforts in working with the school group and ARISS to secure approval and schedule the contact. Steve W12W supplied the sophisticated computer aided satellite antenna and was the technical mastermind. Noel W2MSA's help was invaluable and he manned the backup station should Murphy's Law appear. But in the end everything went flawlessly.

FLARC and ham radio certainly shined and the Club owes a great deal of thanks to Ria, Steve and Noel for making it all possible. One cannot help but wonder what spark may have been ignited that day in a future scientist, cosmologist, astrophysicist, astronaut, electrical engineer, or even a fellow ham.

Who knows if in an interview decades from now a famous person may say that his or her career path was first kindled in a chat with an orbiting astronaut.

Or some ham on a rare DXpedition in the distant future may be there because of what FLARC did on February 12. We will never know, but there is a distinct possibility for all of that.

## Photos from the ISS radio contact –



FLARC => ISS Communications Central  
L-R: Steve WI2W, Noel W2MSA, Ria N2RJ

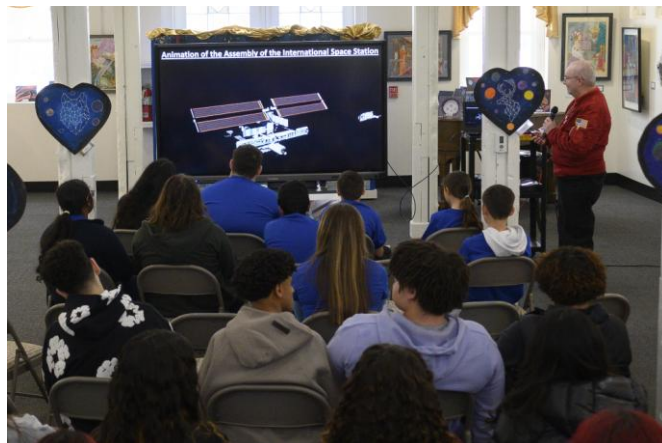
### ISS Contact

I would like to thank Ria N2RJ and Steve WI2W for asking me to help with the ARISS contact made at the Clifton Art Center for the Heart of ARC school students; it was a great experience for me watching the kids exchange questions for answers with astronaut Tom Pettit of the ISS. Steve's satellite station worked flawlessly alerting us to all 18 out of 20 questions. [Ria's live stream](#) internet setup was very impressive and I manned the backup station that luckily we didn't need to use. The staff at the Art center was extremely excited for the event and very hospitable to us. Our next ARISS contact will take place at the P-Tech school planetarium in Paterson. Thanks to Sky KD2SOG for coordinating the Paterson event and Steve WI2W for helping Dr Carlos Miranda with the planning stage. Again, I'm happy to be a part of it all and looking forward to learning much more. — Noel Pagan W2MSA



Family and visitors watched Ria's "live stream" in an adjacent room on this large screen.  
[Michael Green](#), an "ambassador" from NASA, explained things to the audience.

Watch the video at  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESsD1xES-s0>



Even the mayor stopped by to check out the event!



Students were seated in order, waiting their turn at the microphone.

## Photos from the ISS radio contact –



Prepping the students, before the ISS came into range.



Will they be telling their grandkids about this in a few decades?



A “bird’s eye view” of the room.



Ria N2RJ at the “live streaming” control setup, explaining things to news reporter.



On the Air !!  
“Eat the Mike” so he can hear you ...

## Photos from the ISS radio contact –



George Scarfo, local rocket hobbyist, who wrote the message on this poster, was on hand to help explain things to the audience.



W12W's antenna setup to contact the ISS; both azimuth and elevation are controlled, in order to track the satellite as it appears on the horizon, passes overhead, and then down below the opposite horizon.



Things are going well, so Steve W12W (L) and Noel W2MSA (R) are smiling !

### What is ARISS?

ARISS lets students worldwide experience the excitement of talking directly with crew members of the International Space Station, inspiring them to pursue interests in careers in science, technology, engineering and math, and engaging them with radio science technology through amateur radio.

As most hams are aware, the higher the operating frequency the more important it is to have high quality, low-loss cables connecting to the antenna — especially if they are long cables.

Many hams are also aware that one of the major distributors of ham radio equipment, DX Engineering, is very generous with their support of DXpeditions and other special ham radio activities.

While planning the antenna setup for the ISS contact, Steve W12W contacted DX Engineering to ask if they could offer a discount on their high-quality, low-loss cables for this event. They forwarded Steve's request to their Special Projects Management Team and the result was that not only did they provide us with \$700 worth of cables (with connectors) – they shipped them all via Next Day Air, so that Steve could get to work on his setup.

These cables worked fabulously for the Clifton, NJ ISS contact, and they will also be used for the upcoming Paterson NJ event.

**Thanks very much to  
DX Engineering  
for their generous support  
of our ARISS – ISS projects.**

## Contest Corner

Reported by Van W2DLT



Lori and I arrived in Kissimmee, Florida on Tuesday, February 4th for our annual monthly visit to the warmer climes. We planned to visit sites and friends throughout the month of February and early March.

The first activity was the 3rd Annual POTA gathering at Wexiwa Springs State Park (US-1927) just north of Orlando. It was a very well attended gathering of POTA enthusiasts at a very comfortable pavilion in the park, as you'll see from the pictures.



I managed to wangle a visit to the operating POTA station and made my SECOND POTA activation on on 40 meters. Steve W12W was one of my first contacts. Great fun, learned a lot. It's a must see for those visiting Hamcation in the future.



Later, Lori and I attended the **Florida Contest Group (FCG)** dinner at the VFW north of Orlando. It was the usual catered BBQ with fixin's and was well attended as you can see from the pictures.



Nomar and his nephew were there as well as many other Contesters I knew from participating in contests on the air..

One was Ed W1EM with whom I operated T48K in Cuba a few years ago. Somehow he won 4 door prizes. He must have bought a boatload of extra tickets (which FCG allows you to do prior to the drawing).

I planned to spend the entire day (Saturday) with Ron KQ4GHI who I've known for over 70 years. We did the whole Magilla... the new stuff, the huge flea market, the indoor flea market building.

And although I said I wouldn't buy anything, I managed to fill my new "Trolley Dolly" to the brim with "bargains." The seat on the Trolley Dolly came in handy for me when I ran out of steam several times. Seating is sparse at Hamcation, unlike Hamvention, which has very ample seating for visitors,



That's NOT the "Trolley Dolly" !

— Van W2DLT



## ELECTRONIC DUES PAYMENTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!



**FLARC dues, new and renewal — and even donations! —  
can now be made on-line ...**

Until permanent arrangements can be made, several fiduciaries of the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club have graciously agreed to forward electronic payments to the Club's bank account.

Payments can be made using Zelle account.



- Log into your Zelle account
- Use the following phone number as the recipient: 201-240-9317
- In the notes section, include your Call Sign and what year(s) the dues are for

Once complete, you may – for added assurance - send a screenshot to [treasurer@FairLawnARC.org](mailto:treasurer@FairLawnARC.org)

– please be sure to redact any personal information –  
(e.g. bank account number, balance, etc.)

**For both new and renewal, please complete the Membership Application form at**  
**<https://FairLawnARC.com/membership.pdf>**

with your current info and either give it to a club officer  
or mail it to the address on the form.

For additional information on club membership, visit  
<http://membership.FairLawnARC.org>

Visit the club website at <http://FairLawnARC.org> for info about the club,  
club activities, club history and our club 2-meter repeater.

For a PDF form that can be filled in on-line, then printed and mailed with check, [CLICK HERE](#)

Or you can print this page, fill it in and mail to the address shown at the bottom.



## Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

*Fair Lawn Recreation and Community Center  
10-10 20th Street  
Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410*

### MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ PO Box \_\_\_\_\_ Ste./Apt # \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Roster Published Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Unpublished Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Roster Published EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ License class: \_\_\_\_\_

Check all that apply      ARRL Member ?      RACES Member ?      ARES Member ?      CERT ?      VE ?

Additional Family Members (In same household) --

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Introductory and Student Membership      \$ 20      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Students under the age of 18 eligible for student membership)  
(Introductory membership open to new members  
or not a member in last 7 yrs)

Associate Membership \*      (No Fee)  
\* Open to Fair Lawn Residents Only. No voting rights or other privileges.

Renewal of Current Membership      \$ 25      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Three Year Renewal Incentive      \$ 65      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Single memberships only, family memberships excluded)

Additional Family Members    # \_\_\_\_\_ at      \$ 5 each      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Life Membership      \$ 625      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Life Membership (65 yrs. of age or over)      \$ 250      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Equipment Fund Donation, above regular membership dues      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total submitted      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby acknowledge the By laws and rules and regulations of the club and will abide by them as amended

Please Note: Memberships are NOT Pro-Rated. Membership is from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> of any given year unless documented otherwise.

Please make your dues check payable to the "Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club" and remit to the following address:

**Fair Lawn ARC  
– Attn: Treasurer  
10-10 20<sup>th</sup> Street  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410**

Complete this form for NEW or RENEWAL of ARRL membership  
and give to FLARC Treasurer [David Gotlib KD2MOB] with your payment check.



**ARRL**  
The National Association for  
Amateur Radio®

## Membership Application

☐ New    ☐ Renew    ☐ Previous Member    ☐ Unlicensed

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

**My Family Member is Joining or Renewing: (\$12 per member)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please note my new address    ☐ I do not want my name and address made available for non-ARRL related mailings

### Your Annual Membership Dues\*

Circle Your Choice (rates effective Jan. 1, 2024)

|                                                        | 1 Year | 3 Years |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Standard membership                                    | \$59   | \$174   |
| Family (same membership exp. date and address)         | \$12   | \$36    |
| Student (must be under age 26)                         | \$30   |         |
| Blind (requires one-time statement of legal blindness) | \$12   | \$36    |

### Add-on ARRL Subscriptions

**QST**, ARRL's membership journal for active radio amateurs.

☐ 1 Year \$25\*    ☐ 3 Years \$75\*

**On the Air**, For beginner-to-intermediate-level radio amateurs.

☐ 1 Year \$25\*    ☐ 3 Years \$75\*

### Member Benefits

Your membership supports benefits, services, and programs that keep you active and on the air.

#### Membership Includes:

- Access to four digital magazines and archives (*QST*, *On the Air*, *QEX*, & *NCJ*)
- Unlimited courses through the ARRL Learning Center ([learn.arrl.org](http://learn.arrl.org))
- Logbook of The World®, contests, and award programs

...and more!

\*A print subscription for *QST* and/or *On the Air* requires an ARRL membership. Dues and subscription rates are subject to change without notice and are non-refundable

### Payment Information

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total Charge to:    ☐ Visa    ☐ MasterCard    ☐ AmEx    ☐ Discover    ☐ Check Enclosed

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Toll Free (US) 1-888-277-5289 or 860-594-0200 • ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111-1400  
membership@arrl.org • [www.arrl.org/join](http://www.arrl.org/join)

CLUB  
form rev 1/24

**March 2025****FLARC Business Meeting**

FAIR LAWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
 MINUTES of BUSINESS MEETING  
 Fair Lawn Senior Center  
 March 7, 2025

Zoom setup at the meeting had no technical problems this month!  
 Thanks to WO2X and KD2KLN for getting everything working tip-top.

The Club's President Gene WO2W called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM. At his request the members present in person rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Club President Gene WO2W checked the officer role and found the following:

|                |        |        |                   |
|----------------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| President      | Gene   | WO2W   | Present           |
| Vice President | Nomar  | NP4H   | Present           |
| Treasurer      | Robert | KD2SOG | Not Present       |
| Secretary      | Jim    | W2JC   | Present (by Zoom) |
| Trustee        | Van    | W2DLT  | Present (by Zoom) |
| Trustee        | Judith | KC2LTM | Present (by Zoom) |
| Trustee        | Noel   | W2MSA  | Present           |

The Secretary confirmed to the President that a quorum existed in order for the meeting to proceed and business be conducted.

The President asked if there were any visitors present; none responded.

The President then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 7, 2025 as published in the February Resonator. Upon motion made by Dave WO2X and seconded by Skip KD2BRV the minutes were unanimously approved.

The President then asked if anyone had received a report from the Treasurer, who is not present at the meeting. Jim W2JC reported that he had received an extensive report from the Treasurer and, on request of the President, W2JC read the Treasurer report –

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Our current bank balance is [\*\*\*\*\*]. This is a decrease of -\$478.30 from last month. Our income was \$150.00 and our expenses were -\$628.30. Income was entirely member dues, while expenses were mostly our annual internet services - our annual website domain fee and zoom account bill - plus new shelving in the basement. There were no payments made, or funds received into, the petty cash fund in Feb. For the year, we are currently running a deficit of -\$200.57.

## March 2025 FLARC Business Meeting, cont'd.

Additionally, the above amounts are inclusive of some outstanding checks that have not yet been deposited by their recipients yet, per my records. If you have been reimbursed by the club, please be sure to deposit your checks.

I attribute the decline in the last month to slightly elevated expenses for February (related to expenses covering the whole year, and the shelves), and also - while I do not yet have hard data on this - lower member dues payments. I suspect a few members have not re-upped their dues for 2025. Please be sure to pay your dues ASAP. I will be sending reminder emails once I have moved our roster to a new management system.

Incorporation is proceeding as planned. I am working with Jim W2KNG to file the appropriate paperwork this month, and I thank him for his work. I also researched the regular filings that I will have to produce as Treasurer when FLARC is incorporated; they will amount to about 15-30 minutes of work per year. The IRS needs form 990N, which is literally a postcard, and income tax exempt organizations in NJ do not have to file a corporate tax return once registered with the state.

We will also have to file an annual report with the state listing our Agent (where legal documents can be sent), our address [the clubhouse], our officers [the board & trustees], and if we have paid any workers comp. This will cost us, by law, \$75 in filing fees annually (to NJ). Additionally, while we will be exempt from income tax, under NJ law, 501c7 organizations (which we will be) are not exempt from paying NJ sales tax - sorry for anyone who wanted to save sales tax on a radio.

As a reminder, we are making this change as once complete FLARC will be a legal entity with additional protections under law (versus our current structure), and also be able to earn interest on our bank account.

As Youth Coordinator, Sky KD2SOG included that report and, on request of the President, the Youth Committee report was also read by Jim W2JC –

### YOUTH COMMITTEE

Our annual participation in Super Science Saturday was a Smashing Success! The Ridgewood event is now one of the largest science fairs in NJ and we are considered a flagship presenter; the founder came to our room shortly before the event started and told us they gave us extra space on the program because of all the stuff we show off and how well-received our team is!

We had probably our best year ever at the event. We had (by my mental math) over 60 kids and dozens of families come to our room. Most were younger (10 and below) but there were also a few high school kids. They were all very keen on our demos of wireless technology: asking about the space station, looking at FT8, trying Morse code, and getting to keep a QSL card.

## March 2025 FLARC Business Meeting, cont'd.

We handed out dozens of our brochures and info packets to the most interested kids (and parents). Some of them even made their first contacts on a Baofeng!

We were not able to set up a station at the school, and I'm not sure it would have been needed - we had poor experience doing so before (propagation was awful given the school's geography & construction), and the kids were still quite interested regardless. If we had done so, we would have tried to contact Ed WX2R in Florida, who was at a field day with the club down there. We may still do a station at the school next year, perhaps as a demo of a POTA kit, but I'm open to feedback.

I'd like to thank the following people for their contributions and giving up half of their Saturday:

KD2WYX (Luisa),  
KC2LTM (Judith),  
W2ABE (Fred),  
WO2X (Dave),  
WO2W (Gene),  
WI2W (Steve),  
KC2ORX (Rob Merritt),  
W2KNG (Jim) and  
N5NY (Madison).

I would particularly like to thank Jim W2JC, who did significant work in planning this event and came up with the idea of using QSL cards & map as a giveaway to get the kiddos engaged, which worked extremely well.

I would also like to extend special thanks to Dave WO2X, who spent several nights at the club testing his Maestro & other equipment to ensure he had a fabulous multi-screen FT8 demo.

Unrelated, we are also working on a project to get more involved in the Boy & Girl scouts in this area, but so far they've shown zero interest. If you know anyone in the organization there, either locally or higher-up, please contact me direct.

The President suspended Committee Reports this month, but made a special presentation and award to three members.

On February 12<sup>th</sup> several FLARC members were able to successfully conduct an Earth-to-ISS (International Space Station) voice radio contact as the ISS passed over NJ. This project had been "in the works" for a long time, and all the planning paid off beautifully.

Ria N2RJ, Steve WI2W and Noel W2MSA were the coordinators and activators of this project, in which a dozen young students (4<sup>th</sup> grade thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade) each had an opportunity to ask a question of the astronaut on board the ISS and to hear his answer to their question.

## March 2025 FLARC Business Meeting, cont'd.

Gene WO2W indicated that there was a very well done article published in the Bergen Record newspaper describing the event, and Gene had a copy laminated to be posted in the club room next to the article from the last time FLARC did this (for the Fair Lawn school system).

At this point Gene asked Ria, Steve and Noel to come to the front of the room and he presented each of them with a very attractive plaque commending them for their efforts and success.



Van W2DLT did not have anything to report from the Contesting Committee, though he did report on some POTA activity he has done while in Florida.

Mention was made of World Amateur Radio Day on April 18<sup>th</sup> -- the club is scheduled to be open from 1600 to 2100 that day and members are invited to operate during that time. Gene WO2W reported that “We've sent notices and stuff out to the Girl Scouts and some of the Boy Scouts inviting them to an open house.”

Reminder also that April 20<sup>th</sup> is Earth Day at the Great Falls National Historical Park, and we have been asked to again set up a demo area (we've done this for more than ten years now, and they love us!).

May 4<sup>th</sup> will be FLARC Portable Day at Fair Lawn Memorial Park; we have invited BARA members as well. “Lunch will be served.”

May 26<sup>th</sup> is the Memorial Day Parade in Fair Lawn. We always provide a radio car at the front of each parade section, to report progress and any problems. This is part of our payback to the Rec. Dept. for hosting us in the Rec. Center.

June 14<sup>th</sup> is the FLARC Hamfest, at Fair Lawn Memorial Park. Nomar NP4H and Gene WO2W are co-chairs for this, and Robert KD2SOG is soliciting sponsors.

June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> is Field Day weekend, also at Fair Lawn Memorial Park.

July 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Fair Lawn Fireworks, where we provide communication between the check-in entry points and the “command center” – another payback to the Rec. Dept.

President announced that next month, at the April meeting, Gene K2KJI will give us a half hour presentation about HamSci and also about the design and installation of the new “super station” at Scranton University ... which we are planning to visit later on a day trip on April 24<sup>th</sup> – car pooling and details will be arranged soon.

## March 2025 FLARC Business Meeting, cont'd.

At our May meeting, Ria N2RJ will give a presentation about “Operating Ham Radio in an Electric Vehicle” ... which can be very touchy because of the internal computer, etc.

Nomar NP4H asked to make a comment. He indicated that he had asked, and received, FLARC member signatures so he could run for Section Manager of NNJ and he reported that ARRL just notified him that he won the election. So FLARC now has a direct connection to the ARRL Section Manager !

Dave WO2X made a quick report from the Technical Committee:

On Laptop #1, the touch pad has become intermittent and hard to use. Dave will get the part number and determine what it will cost to replace the touchpad.

“The second item is the desktop computers at positions 1, 2, and 4. We need to decide what we're going to do as far as replacing those desktop computers. The Tech Committee will determine what we need — something that will fit our needs now, and in the foreseeable future. We don't need anything that's super powerhouse, but something that is going to last for a while.”

A motion was made that Dave WO2X be authorized to spend up to a hundred dollars for the repair of that laptop. Motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Some discussion followed regarding repair of “spare” antenna rotators. Gene WO2W indicated that there are three spare rotators in the basement storage. The decision on what to do with them (repair and keep, sell, etc) is pending Tech Committee decisions on pending antenna changes.

Motion to close the meeting was made by Nomar NP4H and seconded by Brian KD2KLN. Passed by voice vote and meeting adjourned at 20:20 EST.

Submitted by Jim W2JC  
Secretary, FLARC

